

TO THE  
RIGHT HONORABLE,  
THE  
High Court of Parliament,  
SITTING AT  
WESTMINSTER:

*The Illegal and Immodest Petition of Praise-God Barbone, Anabaptist and Leather-seller of  
L O N D O N;*

*Most impudently sheweth,*

**T**Hat your Petitioner hath lived a great while, and indeed long enough to have had more wit, and more honesty; That Satan finding his head empty of all goodness, did one day stuff it with Heretical Notions and Whimsies, even as full as men are wont to stuff Fillers of Veal with sweet Herbs, that the Protector called him to be a Parliament man, which so fatten'd his meagre Ambition, that he hath had ever since a very itching desire to be meddling with State Affaires. That he findes as long as *ENGLAND* is governed by sober and good Magistrates, he is like to get nothing more then his Shop will afford him: That the two largest pooles of troubled waters for Self-seeking men to fish in, are Distraction in the State, and Unfettlement in the Church. That your Petitioner likes no Government of a single Person, unless it be that which was set up in *Munster*, and to such a one he prayeth a longer continuance. That Religion, Conscience, and Morality have bin now us'd long enough in the world, and that 'tis fit there should be some new *Innovation* invented to succeed them. That it is time now, since he hath got nothing all this while, but onely an Order to be Comptroller of *Haberdaughters-Hall*, to be stirring and looking out for Portions for his Children with hard Names. That as he is a Leather-seller, he ought to see all the Adversaries of his Lunatick devotion, dead and soak'd in the Tan-fat of Oppression, that he may have their skins to sell to all those Drummers that shall have occasion to march before the saints to the Valley of *Jehosaphat*. That if Truth and Righteousness do ever kiss each other in *England*, he hopes, and it is his earnest desire that it may onely be a parting kiss. Your Petitioner also further sheweth, That it is not, nor ever was the custom of the Anabaptist, to give an accompt of their Faith, or to know what they profess, And therefore he he further sheweth, That he holds that *Feake* is a very able Divine because he is mad, and hath a Demoniack faculty of alwayes raving against the Powers in being; So that when you see him in the Church, you would think him to be the mad man among the tombes. Here is onely the difference between that man and your Petitioners Patriarch, that Christ dispossessed the former, but if he should offer the other such a courtesie, he would think himself wiser and more sanctified than his Savior, and scorn the motion. And from his Example your Petitioner further sheweth, That if there be a factious, unsanctified, illiterate Heretick in the world, he is one, and will so continue as long as he lives; unless your Honors will give him a thousand pound a year to turn Christian.

In Consideration of which Premises, your Petitioner humbly prays, That the Mystery of Jesuitism, and the Works of *Ignatius Loyola* may be read in Churches, in stead of what is now more commonly used, whereby the People may be instructed in all sorts of Knavery one towards another, and in all sorts of Rebellion and Disobedience to their Superiors.

That the Commandments may be taken down from the end of the Chancel in every Church, and the Heads of the *Cracovian Catechism* placed in the room thereof, till the said Churches shall be pull'd down.

That as soon as may be all Churches in *England* may be pull'd down, and the Materials thereof given to your Petitioner toward the Repair of his Windows, and setting up a New Sign; And that your Petitioner may be forced to give no further Accompt of the *Sums* so gathered; Neither can this destruction be unlawful for that *St. Paul* being a leading Apostle, and his Church being fallen, all other Churches ought to be made to follow the Example of his.

That all Schools and Universities be demolished, and their Revenues given to buy us more Armes, in stead of those which were lately taken away, that we may be in a readines when we shall be call'd forth to Butcher our Enemies.

That all Divines and Learned men in *England* may be massacred, and thrown to the fowls of the Air, that we may be no more troubled with their Syllogisms, to the utter hinderance of all our important Designs; And that all Books may be burnt, except *Nailors*, *Feaks*, and *Rogers's* Works, and *Larner's* Hymns, wherein the Unity of Christ and his Church is most sweetly chanted forth, to the Tune of *Jockies-march*.

That there may be a Free Toleration of Bawdy-houses, because your Petitioners house looks now so like one, the Windows being all broken; And that none but Anabaptists may go to them, for the Propagation of our weak Faction.

That general Supplications may be made, for the Continuance of Satans Reign a thousand years longer then is set down in the *Revelation*.

And lastly, That you would confer upon your Petitioner Six hundred pound *per Annum*, in stead of his Comptrollership which he hath now lost, to the great impoverishment of him and his family.

*And your Petitioner shall ever pray, &c.*